IN THE CLAIMS

51. ~~(Twice Amended) An article comprising:~~

a machine readable storage medium storing instructions comprising a device manager and power management software, said power management software, if executed by a system, performs operations comprising said power management software:

cooperates with said device manager to allow power management of a plurality of devices in the system which are configurable devices; and

manages a power level for each of the plurality of devices in the system and is capable of placing one or more of said plurality of ~~devices in a reduced power consumption state.~~

57. ~~(Once Amended) An article~~ comprising:

a machine readable storage medium storing instructions comprising power management software, said instructions, if executed by a system cause said system to perform operations comprising:

allowing power management of a plurality of devices in the system which are configurable devices; and

managing a power level for each of the plurality of devices in the system, said power management software being capable of placing one or more of said plurality of devices in a reduced

power consumption state, wherein said power management software, if executed, provides support for idle detection for at least one of said plurality of devices.

63. (Once Amended) The article of claim 51 wherein said power management software performs power management for said plurality of devices and lacks a permanent tie to a specific hardware device in the system.

64. (Once Amended) An article comprising:

a machine readable storage medium storing power management software which, if executed by a system, performs operations comprising said power management software:

coordinates power management for a plurality of devices; and

registers with a configuration manager to be notified of configuration changes for any of said plurality of devices.

70. ~~(Once Amended)~~ An article comprising:

a computer readable storage medium storing power management software comprising a power manager and additional software which is operating system software, the power management software, if executed by a computer, performs operations comprising said power management software:

forms a part of a kernel level of an operating system for the computer;

cooperates with a device manager to allow power management of a plurality of system devices after reconfiguration of said plurality of system devices; and

manages a power level of the computer.

73. (Twice Amended) An article comprising:

a computer readable medium storing a plurality of computer executable instructions including power management software and additional software to implement an operating system, the power management software, if executed by a computer system, operates in an operating system cooperative manner with said operating system at a kernel level which is a highest privilege level of the operating system, and causes the computer system to perform operations comprising:

providing support for device idle detection for an input/output device in said computer system to determine when said input/output device has been inactive for a first duration, the first duration being a user configurable duration that may be varied based on desired power savings using a graphical user interface;

placing said input/output device in a reduced power consumption state if said input/output device has been inactive for the first duration;

cooperating with a plug and play manager that, in cooperation with said power management software, allows power management of said input/output device even though said input/output device is a

plug and play configurable device;

providing support for system level power management by monitoring global events;

placing said computer system into one of a plurality of system level power management states as a part of system level power management implemented by said power management software, one of said plurality of system level power management states being a sleep state into which the computer system is placed due to the system remaining idle.